



# MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

## FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 1, 2017/2018

**MAX2033 – VISUAL EFFECTS AND COMPOSITING**  
(All sections / Groups)

12 OCTOBER 2017  
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
( 2 Hours )

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### INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This Question paper consists of 4 pages with SECTION A ONLY.
2. Answer ALL questions.
3. Please write all your answers in the Answer Booklet provided.

**SECTION A**

Answer ALL questions.

**Question 1**

Alfred Clark's "The Execution of Mary Queen of Scots" was reputed to be the first documented special effect. The technique, substitution shot or stop trick became an effects standard, and is still used today.

a) Explain how you can use the 'stop trick' to create your own special effects shot.  
*(10 marks)*

Define the following visual effects terms, and give an example of each technique's usage:

b) Animatronics  
c) Motion control camera  
d) Liquids effects  
e) Prosthetics  
f) Action props  
*(10 marks)*

**Question 2**

For a century, matte painters have been an integral part of making motion picture illusions. Most of the early matte painters were skilled artists who painted on oils and canvasses. In the 1902 – 1907, Matte Painting was created using a "Glass Shot" technique.

a) Explain in details what is the process in creating a "Glass Shot"  
*(10 marks)*

b) What are the advantages and disadvantages of "Glass Shot"?  
*(10 marks)*

**Continued ...**

**Question 3**

a) In international or local VFX Studios, compositing is the last department before the shot goes to client. Compositing involves combining of visual elements from separate sources into single images, often to create the illusion that all those elements are parts of the same scene. Today, most, though not all, compositing is achieved through digital image manipulation. In the Visual Effects Pipeline, it shows that Compositor work with multiple file with different departments. Explain how compositor work with these files.

- i) Rotoscoping
- ii) Element shoots
- iii) Green Screen
- iv) Clean Plate

*(10 marks)*

b) The illusions or tricks of the eye used in the film, television, theatre, video game, and simulator industries to simulate the imagined events in a story or virtual world usually uses Special Effects and Visual Effects. What are the differences between Special Effects and Visual Effects?

*(10 marks)*

**Continued ...**

**Question 4**

Once the image passes through the camera lens and is recorded, it takes on another characteristic of motion pictures: *grain*. Grain is essentially high-frequency noise readily apparent in each channel of most recorded footage.

a) Discuss THREE situations when grain management is necessary.

(10 marks)

b) Explain in detail the steps of effective grain management strategies.

(10 marks)

**Question 5**

There are two common ways of matte creation to separate an object or actor from its background. Discuss these TWO methods in detail, explaining how the methods can be used to separate an actor from the background.

Method ONE:

Method TWO:

(20 marks)

**End of Paper**